

## AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)

Applicant(s): Eric Harwood

**Docket No.**

## Faurecia-1

Serial No.  
09/997,645

Filing Date

**Examiner**

## Group Art Unit

Invention: OPTIMAL RIB DESIGN METHOD FOR EXHAUST COMPONENTS

NOV 18 2002

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

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The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

NOV 22 2002

**CLAIMS AS AMENDED**

Technology Center 2100

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	8 -	20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	2 -	3 =	0	x \$84.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00

No additional fee is required for amendment.

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Dated: November 12, 2002

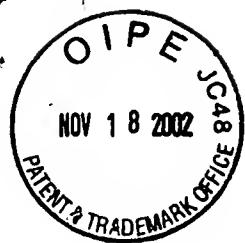
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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 11-12-02 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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21A  
Atty. Ref.: Faurecia-1  
PWB

12-3-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Eric Harwood  
Appl. No. : 09/997,645  
Filed : November 29, 2001  
For : OPTIMAL RIB DESIGN METHOD FOR EXHAUST COMPONENTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application.

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 as follows:

A) 1. A method for designing a component of an exhaust system, the method comprising:

designing an original configuration for the exhaust system component; converting the configuration to a three-dimensional mesh; deforming the three-dimensional mesh to define an optimal theoretical shape for the exhaust system component to optimize natural frequencies of the exhaust system component; defining the three-dimensional mesh as a plurality of intersecting flat surfaces; projecting a two-dimensional point cloud onto the optimal theoretical shape; smoothing intersections of the flat surfaces between the points of the projected point cloud to define curves with a bend radius substantially